

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Claims 1-28 and 45-48 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-11, 16, 17, 19-21 and 45 stand rejected. Claims 12-15, 18, 22-28 and 46-48 are objected to. Claims 1, 12, 17, and 26 are herein amended. Claim 18 is cancelled without prejudice.

The Examiner objected to claim 1 due to certain typographical errors. Claim 1 has been amended to correct the typographical errors. Accordingly, the objection to claim 1 is believed to have been overcome.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11, 16, 17, 19-21 and 45 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,324,298 to O'Dell et al. (hereinafter O'Dell). The Examiner also indicated that claim 12 was objected to, and in particular that the prior art fails to teach wherein the inspection module comprises a learn model processor for learning and saving attributes about the appearance of objects and for providing structural and geometric models. In view of this, claim 1 has been amended to include the inspection model comprising a learn model processor for learning and saving attribute attributes about the appearance of objects and for providing structural and geometric models, and this element has been removed from claim 12. Accordingly, since the prior art fails to teach an inspection model comprising a learn model processor for learning and saving attributes about the appearance of objects and for providing structural and geometric models, claim 1 is believed allowable. Claims 2-11 depend from amended claim 1 and are believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which is believed allowable. Similarly, claim 18 was indicated as being allowable, therefore claim 17 was amended to include the element of claim 18, and claim 18 was cancelled. Accordingly, claim 17 is believed allowable. Claims 19-28 depend from claim 17 and are believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which is believed allowable.

Regarding claim 45, the Examiner stated in part that the prior art fails to teach "... a learn model processor for learning and saving attribute, about the appearance of parts and for gathering image, structural and geometric models for data gathered ...". Claim 45 recites this

limitation, and therefore is believed allowable over the prior art. Claims 46-48 depend from claim 45 and are believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which is believed allowable.

In view of the above, the Examiner's rejections and objection are believed to have been overcome placing claims 1-17, 19-28 and 45-48 in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Amendment or this application.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500845.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 07-Jan-04

DALY, CROWLEY & MOFFORD, LLP

By: David W. Rouille
David W. Rouille
Reg. No. 40,150
Attorney for Applicant(s)
275 Turnpike Street, Suite 101
Canton, MA 02021-2354
Tel.: (781) 401-9988, ext. 25
Fax: (781) 401-9966